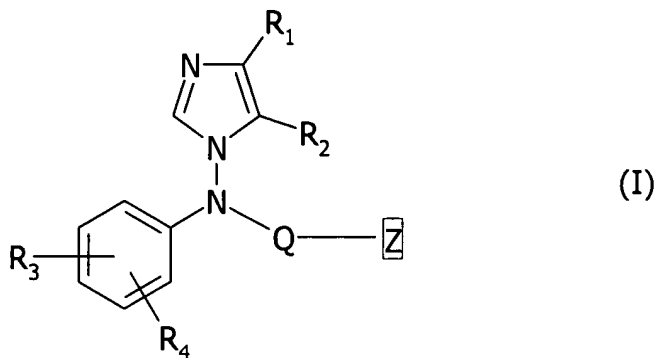


IN THE CLAIMS:

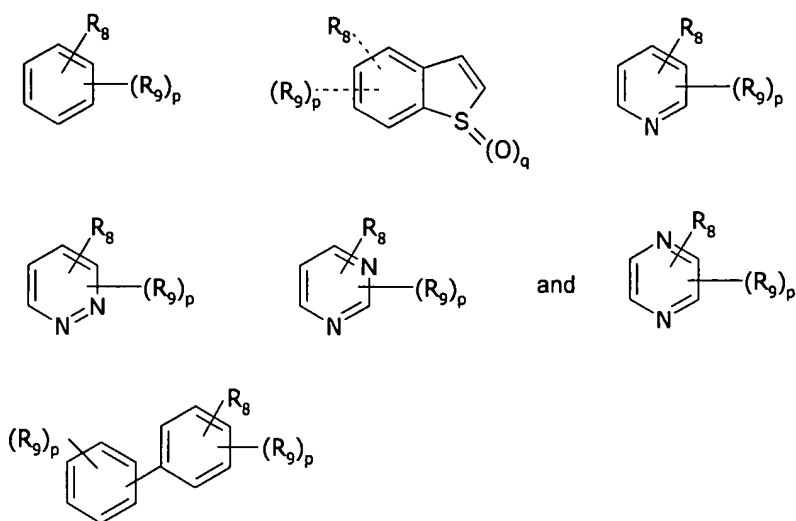
The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

1. (original) An imidazole derivative of formula (I) :

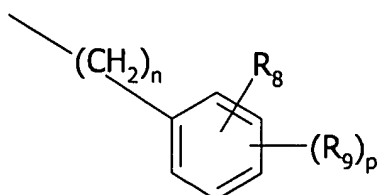


and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof,
wherein :

- R_1 and R_2 are each independently hydrogen, a (C_1-C_6) alkyl or a (C_3-C_8) cycloalkyl ; or R_1 and R_2 together form a saturated or unsaturated 5-, 6- or 7- membered carbocyclic ring;
- Q is $(CH_2)_m-X-(CH_2)_n-A$;
- A is a direct link, O, S, SO, SO_2 , NR_5 ;
- X is a direct link, CF_2 , O, S, SO, SO_2 , C(O), NR_5 or CR_6R_7 ;
- Z is a group selected from:



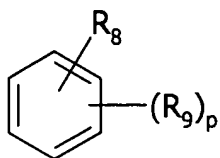
- m and n are each independently 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;
- p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;
- q is 0, 1 or 2;
- the dotted line means that R₈ and/or R₉ can be on any position of the benzothiophene ring;
- R₃ and R₈ are each independently hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl, acyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, OPO(OR₁₀)₂, NR₁₀R₁₁, SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂OR₁₀, SO₂OR₁₀, SSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, CF₂SO₂OR₁₀, CF₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, CF₂-tetrazolyl or NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, CO₂R₁₀, CONR₁₀R₁₁, OCHO, OCONR₁₀R₁₁, OCSNR₁₀R₁₁, SCONR₁₀R₁₁, SCSNR₁₀R₁₁, tetrazolyl, NR₁₂CONR₁₀R₁₁, NR₁₀-CHO group;
- when Q-Z is



n is 0, 1 or 2 and p is 1, one of R_3 and R_8 is a hydroxy, nitro, $OPO(OR_{10})_2$, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, OSO_2OR_{10} , SO_2OR_{10} , $SSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $CF_2SO_2OR_{10}$, $CF_2SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CF_2 -tetrazolyl, $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}SO_2NR_{11}R_{12}$, CO_2R_{10} , $CONR_{10}R_{11}$, $OCHO$, $CONR_{10}R_{11}$, $OCSNR_{10}R_{11}$, $SCONR_{10}R_{11}$, $SCSNR_{10}R_{11}$, tetrazolyl, $NR_{12}CONR_{10}R_{11}$, NR_{10} -CHO group and the other is hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl, acyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, OSO_2OR_{10} , SO_2OR_{10} , $SSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $CF_2SO_2OR_{10}$, $CF_2SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CF_2 -tetrazolyl, $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CO_2R_{10} , $CONR_{10}R_{11}$, $OCHO$, $CONR_{10}R_{11}$, $OCSNR_{10}R_{11}$, $SCONR_{10}R_{11}$, $SCSNR_{10}R_{11}$, tetrazolyl, $NR_{12}CONR_{10}R_{11}$, NR_{10} -CHO group;

- R_4 and R_9 are each independently hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, $OPO(OR_{10})_2$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl, acyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, OSO_2OR_{10} , SO_2OR_{10} , $SSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $CF_2SO_2OR_{10}$, $CF_2SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CF_2 -tetrazolyl, $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CO_2R_{10} , CHO , $CONR_{10}R_{11}$, $OCHO$, $CONR_{10}R_{11}$, $OCSNR_{10}R_{11}$, $SCONR_{10}R_{11}$, $SCSNR_{10}R_{11}$, tetrazolyl, $NR_{12}CONR_{10}R_{11}$, NR_{10} -CHO group;
- when p is 2, 3 or 4 the R_9 s can be the same or different;
- R_6 and R_7 are independently hydrogen, halogen, a (C_1-C_6) alkyl or a (C_3-C_8) cycloalkyl;

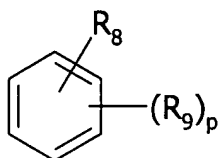
- R_5 , R_{10} , R_{11} and R_{12} are each independently hydrogen, hydroxy, a (C_1-C_6) alkyl, or a (C_3-C_8) cycloalkyl; R_{10} can also be a salt; R_{10} and R_{11} can also form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, a 5- to 7-membered heterocycle containing one or two heteroatoms selected from O, S and N;
- when Z is



and p is 1,

then R_8 and R_9 can also form together with the phenyl ring a benzoxathiazine dioxide, a dihydrobenzoxathiazine dioxide, a benzoxathiazinone dioxide, a benzoxathiazole dioxide, a benzoxadithiadiazine tetraoxide, a benzodithiazine tetraoxide or a benzodioxadithiine tetraoxide;

• when Z is



R_3 and R_4 together with the phenyl ring bearing them can also form a benzofurane or a N-methylbenzotriazole, provided that when p is 1 and Q is $(CH_2)_n$, then R_8 and R_9 are independently a hydroxy, nitro, $OPO(OR_{10})_2$, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, OSO_2OR_{10} , SO_2OR_{10} , $SSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $CF_2SO_2OR_{10}$, $CF_2SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CF_2 -tetrazolyl, $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CO_2R_{10} , $CONR_{10}R_{11}$, $OCHO$, $OCONR_{10}R_{11}$, $OCSNR_{10}R_{11}$, $SCONR_{10}R_{11}$, $SCSNR_{10}R_{11}$, tetrazolyl, $NR_{12}CONR_{10}R_{11}$ or $NR_{10}-CHO$ group.

2. (original) A derivative according to claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- one of R_3 and R_8 is a hydroxy, nitro, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ or $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ group; and
- the other is hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C_1-C_6) alkyl,

(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl, acyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁ group;

3. (currently amended) A derivative according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- one of R₃ and R₈ is hydroxy, cyano, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy or OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁; and
- the other is hydrogen or a hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, NR₁₀R₁₁, SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀SO₂NR₁₁R₁₂ group.

4. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claim 1 to 3~~ claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- one of R₃ and R₈ is cyano; and
- the other is hydrogen or a hydroxy, halogen, nitro, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, NR₁₀R₁₁, SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁ group.

5. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- R₄ and R₉ are each independently hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl, acyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, CO₂R₁₀ or CHO group.

6. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claim 5~~, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- one of R₄ and R₉ is hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano or OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁; and

• the other is hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, CO₂R₁₀, CHO, NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁ group.

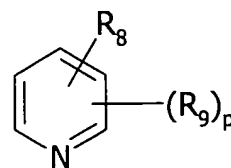
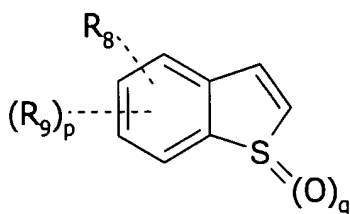
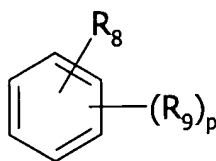
7. (original) A derivative according to claim 6, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

• R₄ is hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano or OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁;
• R₉ is a hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, CO₂R₁₀, CHO group.

8. (original) A derivative according to claim 7, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

• R₄ is hydrogen; and
• R₉ is hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, CO₂R₁₀, CHO or NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁.

9. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein Z is:



in which:

• R₈ is hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, NR₁₀R₁₁, SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁ or OSO₂NR₁₀SO₂NR₁₁R₁₂ group;

• R_9 hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CO_2R_{10} , CHO, $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ group;

• ~~p and q are as defined in claim 1~~

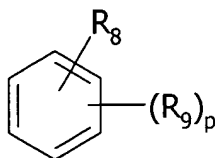
• p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

• q is 0, 1 or 2.

10. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein Q is selected from a direct link, C(O), SO_2 , CONH, $C(O)(CH_2)_n$, $(CH_2)_n(O)$ or $(CH_2)_n$ in which n is 0, 1 or 2.

11. (currently amended) A derivative according to claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

• Z is



• Q is $(CH_2)_n$ in which n is 0, 1 or 2;

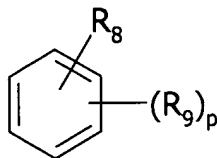
• one of R_3 and R_8 is a hydroxy, nitro, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ or $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ group and the other is hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl, acyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ or $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ group;

• R_4 and R_9 are each independently hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl, acyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ or $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ group;

- R_{10} and R_{11} are each independently hydrogen, a (C_1-C_6) alkyl or a (C_3-C_8) cycloalkyl;
- p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;
- R_8 and R_9 together with the phenyl ring bearing them can also form a benzoxathiazine dioxide or a dihydrobenzoxathiazine dioxide;
- R_3 and R_4 together with the phenyl ring bearing them can also form a benzofurane or a N-methylbenzotriazole.

12. (currently amended) A derivative according to claim 11, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- Z is



- Q is $(CH_2)_n$ in which n 0, 1 or 2;
- R_8 is hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano or a (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, or $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ group;
- R_9 is hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$;
- p is as defined in claim 1.

13. (original) A derivative according to claim 12, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- n is 0 or 1;
- R_8 and R_9 are each independently hydrogen, halogen, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, acyl, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ or $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$.

14. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 11 to 13~~ claim 11, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- n is 0 or 1;
- R_1 , R_2 and R_4 are each hydrogen;

- R_9 is hydrogen, halogen, (C_1-C_6) alkyl or $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$.

15. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 11 to 14~~ claim 11, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

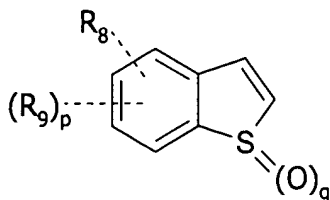
- n and p are 1;
- R_8 is a hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ or $OSO_2NR_{10}SO_2NR_{11}R_{12}$ group;
- R_9 a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, CO_2R_{10} or CHO group;
- R_3 is cyano, hydroxy, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ or $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$;
- R_4 is hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, cyano or $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$.

16. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 15~~ claim 12, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein one of R_3 and R_8 is hydroxy, cyano or $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ and the other is hydroxy, nitro, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ or $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$.

17. (original) A derivative according to claim 16, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein one of R_3 and R_8 is cyano or $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$ and the other is hydroxy or $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$.

18. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein :

- Z is



in which:

- Q is $(CH_2)_m-X-(CH_2)_n-A-$;
- A is a direct bond or O, S, SO, SO₂, NR₅;
- X is a direct bond, CF₂, O, S, SO, SO₂, C(O), NR₅ or CR₆R₇;
- m and n are each independently 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;
- R₃, R₄, R₈ and R₉ are each independently hydrogen or a hydroxy, cyano, halogen, nitro, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, benzyloxy, trifluoromethyl, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl, acyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl, NR₁₀R₁₁, OPO(OR₁₀)₂, OCHO, COOR₁₀, SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, SO₂OR₁₀, OSO₂OR₁₀, SSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, CONR₁₀R₁₁, OCONR₁₀R₁₁, OCSNR₁₀R₁₁, SCONR₁₀R₁₁, SCSNR₁₀R₁₁, NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁, tetrazolyl, NR₁₀CONR₁₁OH, NR₁₀SO₂NR₁₁OH, NOH-CHO, NOHSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁ or OSO₂NR₁₀OH group;
- p is 0, 1 or 2.
- R₅, R₆, R₇, R₁₀, R₁₁ and R₁₂ are each independently hydrogen, a (C₁-C₆)alkyl or a (C₃-C₈)cycloalkyl; R₁₀ can also be a salt; R₁₀ and R₁₁ can also form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, a 5- to 7-membered heterocycle containing one or two heteroatoms selected from O, S and N;
- ~~The~~ the dotted line means that Q and/or R₈ and/or R₉ can be on any position of the benzothiophene ring.

19. (original) A derivative according to claim 18, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein R₈ is OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁ or NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁.

20. (currently amended) A derivative according to claim 18 ~~or 19~~, wherein R₉ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, COOR₁₀ or cyano.

21. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 20~~ claim 18, wherein R₄ is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, NR₁₀R₁₁, OSO₂NR₁₀R₁₁ or NR₁₂SO₂NR₁₀R₁₁.

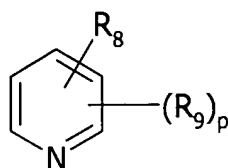
22. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 21~~ claim 19, wherein R₁₀, R₁₁ and R₁₂ are each independently hydrogen or (C₁-C₆)alkyl.

23. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 22~~ claim 18, wherein Q is $(CH_2)_m-X-(CH_2)_n-A$ where m is 0, 1 or 2 and X is a direct bond, SO_2 or CO, n is 0 and A is a direct bond.

24. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 18 to 23~~ claim 18, wherein R_3 is hydrogen, halogen or cyano.

25. (currently amended) A derivative according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

• Z is a group:



in which R_8 , R_9 and p are as defined in claim 1.

26. (currently amended) A derivative according to claim 25, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein:

- R_3 is cyano or $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$;
- R_4 is hydrogen, hydroxyl, halogen, cyano, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$;
- R_8 is hydroxy, cyano, $OSO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, $NR_{10}R_{11}$, $NR_{12}SO_2NR_{10}R_{11}$, OCHO or tetrazolyl;
- R_9 is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano or CO_2R_{10} ; and
- Q is ~~as defined in claim 10~~ $(CH_2)_n$ in which n 0, 1 or 2.

27. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 26~~ claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently hydrogen or a (C_1-C_6) alkyl group.

28. (currently amended) A derivative according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 27~~ claim 1, and acid addition salts and stereoisomeric forms thereof, wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are hydrogen.

29. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 28~~ claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use as an active therapeutic substance.

30. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a derivative according to any one of ~~claims 1 to 28~~ claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (original) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 30, comprising from 0.1 to 400 mg of said derivative.

Claims 32-39 (canceled).